REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the office action mailed on November 10, 2004. All claims have been cancelled in favor of new claims 48-63.

The Patent Office will note that claims 1-38 and 47 were already cancelled in the transmittal papers filed with this divisional application. Further, this divisional application claims priority to parent application Serial No. 09/520,405 filed on March 8, 2000. Support for new claims 48-63 appears in Figure 2 and pages 10-17 of the application as filed. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 48-63 are allowable over the art of record.

The Office Action rejects certain claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,671,745 ("Mathur") and other claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in view of Mathur as a base reference and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,678 ("Arbaugh"), Mathur in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,409,602 ("Wiltshire"), or Mathur alone.

In response, all claims have been canceled and applicants respectfully submit that new independent claims 46 and 61 are allowable over any hypothetical combination of Mathur and the secondary references, Arbaugh and Wiltshire.

Specifically, applicants respectfully submit that Mathur fails to teach or suggest the element of independent claims 48 and 61 and therefore the anticipation rejection is improper and, further, neither Arbaugh nor Wiltshire can supplement the deficiencies of Mathur in order to teach or suggest every element of independent claims 58 and 71 and therefore all of the obviousness rejections are improper as well.

Specifically, claims 48 and 61 require a universal operating system to comprise a separate operating system kernel and a system handler application, both of which are operable to link and load programs shared objects and device handlers. Claims 48 and 61 also require the system handler application to comprise an application program interface that includes functions callable from the program shared objects. Claims 48 and 61 also cite that the system handler application initiates the game.

In contrast, Mathur merely teaches an operating system with a kernel and a device manager but Mathur does not teach or suggest a relationship between and operating system kernel, a system handler application, the operating system and the shared objects and device handlers as recited in independent claims 48 and 61. Further, while Mathur does teach an API or multiple APIs, Mathur does not teach or suggest a relationship between the API and the system handler and program shared objects as recited by independent claims 48 and 61.

Therefore, Mathur is clearly deficient as a base reference and does not anticipate any of the pending claims 48-63.

Further, the combination of Mathur, Arbaugh and Wiltshire teach or suggest the present invention as now claimed in independent claims 48 and 61 and therefore no hypothetical combination of Mathur, Brunner and Pascal renders any pending claim obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Specifically, the deficiencies of Mathur are discussed above. Arbaugh is merely cited for the proposition that it teaches a method for initializing a computer system that ensures its integrity. However, Arbaugh does not teach or suggest the complex relationship between the operating system, operating system kernel, system handler application, shared objects, device handlers and API recited in independent claims 48 and 61 and therefore no combination of Mathur and Arbaugh renders any pending claim obvious.

Similarly, Wiltshire is merely cited for the proposition that it teaches PC-based gaming machines with commercially available operating systems. Wiltshire is not cited for, nor does it disclose, the claimed relationship between the operating system, system handler application, operating system kernel, program shared objects and device handlers as recited in independent claims 48 and 61. Therefore, no combination of Mathur, Arbaugh and Wiltshire teaches or suggests any pending claim.

In view of the cancellation of claims 1-47 and the introduction of new claims 48-63, applicants respectfully submit that this application is in a condition for allowance and an early action so indicating is respectfully requested.
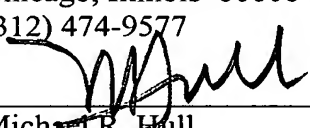
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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